

At the present Wayne County does not have any large basic manufacturing industries, such as DuPont in Lenoir County, but it does have several large basic nonmanufacturing industries, such as Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base, Cherry Hospital and O'Berry Center and the large agricultural industry. These, coupled with the intermediate and small basic manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries, create a large number of jobs and annual earnings, and make possible a large number of local service or nonbasic industries in Wayne County. However, Hevi-Duty Industries will be classified as a large basic manufacturing when it occupies its new plant in 1968.

The following sections of this study will analyze the strengths and weaknesses of Wayne County's economy, with special emphasis on the labor force, agriculture, commerce, manufacturing and governmental activities.